**This story has 20 missing hyphen errors. Insert them where they belong. If you add more than 20 hyphens, I will take off one point for each extra one! Use a caret [^] too so it is easy to see your editing.**

**Here are 20 boxes to check off if that’s helpful: € € € € € € € € € € € € € € € € € € € €**

**CORRECT HYPHEN PLACEMENT**

**NO HYPHEN (modifier is an adverb)**

**Commonly marked, but wrong (although \*I took “good looking” as a correct answer because the linking verb makes it confusing . . . )**

**On their way to get married, an excited young couple was involved in a fatal car accident.  The love- struck twosome found themselves sitting outside the Pearly Gates waiting for the all-knowing St. Peter to process them into Heaven. While waiting, they began to wonder . . . could they possibly get married in Heaven? When the clearly overworked St. Peter showed up, they asked him.**

**St. Peter sighed. "I’m just the gatekeeper. I’m not all-powerful. This is the first time in more than two thousand years at this job that anyone has asked.  Let me go find out." With that, the great saint spun around and left, leaving a light-blue heavenly cloud of dust behind him.**

**The twenty-five-year-old besotted young man and his fiancé who was so good looking\* sat and waited for an answer for more than two and three-fourths a month.  While they waited, they discussed a last- minute worry. IF they were allowed to get married in Heaven, SHOULD they get married, what with the eternal aspect of it all?  "What if it doesn't work?" they wondered.  “Will our pre-nuptial agreement still hold? Can we divorce mid-eternity? Are we stuck together FOREVER? Is this really the most well- planned idea? Do we really want to spend forever wishing you were my ex-husband or that I was your ex-wife?”**

**After yet another forty-two days, St. Peter finally returned, looking somewhat bedraggled and worn.  "Yes," he informed the couple. "This wasn’t easy-to-find information, but you can get married in Heaven."**

**"Great! Sorry that was so hard to find," said the couple. "But we were just wondering, what if the marriage isn’t long- lasting?  Could we also get a divorce in Heaven?"**

**St. Peter, red-faced with anger, slammed his clipboard onto the ground.**

**"What's wrong?' asked the highly startled couple, not expecting a saint to be so hot-headed.**

**"OH, COME ON!" St. Peter shouted, "It took me three months to find a priest up here!  Do you have ANY idea how long it'll take me to find a lawyer?"**

**This story needs your help. At the end of FIFTEEN lines, you’ll see a word in parentheses. If the word at the end of the line (in parentheses) can be divided, where would you divide it? Write it as it should appear, including the hyphen.**

**Example:**

**When in the course of (human) hu-**

**man events, it . . .**

**Several cannibals were (recently) recent-**

**ly hired by a big (corporation) corpora-**

**tion.**

**"You are all part of our team now," said the HR rep during the welcom-**

**Ing briefing. "You get all the usu-**

**al benefits and you can go to the cafeteria for something to eat, but please don't eat**

**any of the (other) oth-**

**er employees." The can-**

**nibals promised.**

**Four weeks later the boss re-**

**marked that they were work-**

**ing very hard.**

**“However, one of our twenty-**

**seven secretaries has disap-**

**peared (or dis-appeared).  Do any of you know what happened to her?"**

**The cannibals all shook their heads no.**

**After the boss had left, the lead-**

**er of the cannibals said to the others,**

**"Which one of you idi-**

**ots ate the secretary?"  After a few seconds, one cannibal feel-**

**ing guilty, hesitant-**

**ly raised her hand.**

**"You fool!” the leader (screamed) [NO!-- one syllable]. For four weeks now, we've been eating managers and no one noticed anything, but noooooo, you had to go and eat the secretary!"**